

WRESTLING FORUM

DECEMBER 15, 1990

VOLUME 5

ISSUE 23

WRESTLING'S BEST KEPT SECRET

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Wrestling Forum is published on the 15th and 30th of each month and mailed the following day. Rates: \$1.50 per issue. All material copyright © Gallagher Publishing 1990. All Rights Reserved.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

I WAS ALL SET TO WRITE ANOTHER one of my tirades on why people don't participate in stuff we do when I said, "Oh Hell, there's more important things than voting on who the best babyface or heel is." It's true that we have less than twenty people who have taken the time to vote in our year end awards survey, but we'll get by. If Hogan vs Warrior wins match of the year, I guess that's the consensus of our readers. One thing I won't do is take the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* approach and decide who gets what award based on who can do what for me!

INSTEAD, THE WELCOME PAGE THIS time is to inform you of several things. First, as always, this is *Wrestling Forum* and we publish on the 15th and 30th of each month. Cost per issue is \$1.50 and you may subscribe for up to six months worth at any one time (\$18.00 total). All renewals, letters to the editor, results, information, submissions of articles, and year end ballots should be sent to WRESTLING FORUM, BOX 65, KNOXVILLE, IL 61448 unless otherwise specifically noted.

THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER 30 EDITION OF *WRESTLING FORUM*. I want to take a little break from things and spend some time with my family since I have about ten days off. I've been working extremely hard on both the book and the bulletin and I figure that since this issue covers Starrcade, and then basically all the promotions are shutting down for a while for the holidays, we might as well take advantage of that and get some things done around here. Among the things I want to do is get the subscribers file put into this computer. We'll be back in print on January 15, 1991 and naturally, you won't be charged for the December 30th issue, unless the 1/15/91 issue turns out to be double sized and I seriously doubt that it will.

LET'S MOVE AWAY FROM THE WORLD of professional wrestling for just a second. Mary, Kelly, Erin and I would like to wish you all the very best of holiday seasons. We want you to have fun, but also to be safe. DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE! AND DON'T LET A FRIEND DRIVE DRUNK! Make all your family's holiday wishes come true by arriving alive. They need you and so do we. If you choose to partake this holiday season, be sure to have a designated driver. Turning the key of the ignition, even if you've just had "a few" is just about the stupidest thing you could ever do.

AND FROM ALL OF US HERE AT
WRESTLING FORUM, HAVE A MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FIFTH ANNUAL WRESTLING FORUM TOURNAMENT

by Sean Grande

THE THIRD ROUND OF OUR tournament is complete with a few minor upsets. Twenty-three readers cast ballots this month to decide the winners.

BEFORE GETTING TO THE results, let me explain the seeding process. Since this is the FIFTH annual tournament, we have had four before it. We seeded wrestlers based 90% on past tournament performance and 10% on current working ability. That's how Barry Windham, Ted DiBiase, Ric Flair and Curt Hennig received their 1-4 seeds respectively. That doesn't necessarily mean that's how this year's tournament will end up or how we expect you to vote. It just gives you an idea of how wrestlers were thrown into particular brackets. Now on to the results of the third round:

BARRY WINDHAM stung Jushin Riger 20-3

BRET HART attacked Jumbo Tsruta 21-2

OWEN HART stormed past Kerry Von Erich 18-4 (1 draw)

SCOTT STEINER upset Lex Luger 15-6 (2 draws)

RANDY SAVAGE blindsided Jake Roberts 21-2

BOBBY EATON bowled over Paul Orndorff 18-5

ARN ANDERSON painted Sting 16-7

CURT HENNIG out bumped Rick Rude 18-4 (1 draw)

RIC FLAIR slammed Riki Choshu 18-4 (1 draw)

TERRY GORDY powered past Tito Santana 14-9

RICK STEINER slipped by Hulk Hogan 12-11

RICK STEAMBOAT tattooed Bam Bam Bigelow 16-7

GREAT MUTA crushed Ultimate Warrior 18-5

STAN HANSEN roped Tully Blanchard 13-8

ROAD WARRIOR HAWK flew past Nobuhiko Takada 15-7 (1 draw)

THESE ARE THE MATCHES FOR ROUND FOUR:

(1) BARRY WINDHAM VS (16) BRET HART

(9) OWEN HART vs SCOTT STEINER

(5) RANDY SAVAGE VS (17) BOBBY EATON

(20) ARN ANDERSON VS (4) CURT HENNIG

(3) RIC FLAIR VS (19) TERRY GORDY

(22) RICK STEINER VS (6) RICK STEAMBOAT

(7) GREAT MUTA VS (10) STAN HANSEN

(15) ROAD WARRIOR HAWK VS (2) TED DIBLASE

TO VOTE, JUST SELECT your winners and mail them to:

SEAN GRANDE

726 COMMONWEALTH AVE

BOX 4-S

BOSTON MA 02215

Deadline for voting is JANUARY 12, 1991!

I•N•D•E•P•E•N•D•E•N•T•L•Y S•P•E•A•K•I•N•G

THE ASWA OUT OF MARYLAND premiered on Home Team Sports Network throughout New England last weekend and by the second week, they were already in reruns. That has to be some sort of a record. Actually what happened is that a basketball game ran overtime and so the network rebroadcast the first week's show after the game. I have not seen the show yet, but will in the next few weeks. I'm told, however, that the quality is about the same as the infamous Chicago Championship Wrestling which is notorious for being one of the worst TV shows produced.

ANOTHER SHOOT?!?! SORT OF. In the ASWA, AJ Fritzoid wasn't satisfied with the way his jobber opponent was selling and so he starting shooting a little. Referee Dave "the Wave" McAllister was sharp enough to spot what was going on and ended the match with a quick count before the scheduled ending.

HERB ABRAMS HAS MOVED HIS UWF operation, or at least the TV production part, from California to New York. He will do his first show from the ballroom of the Penta Hotel on January 9. The Penta is is opposite Madison Square Garden. All readers in the area are advised to take along your latest copy of the sheets to wave at the cameras and make Mr. Abrams very happy.

THE TRI-STATE WRESTLING ALLIANCE is a group based in Philadelphia that runs independent shows there. They have four shows planned for the coming year: 3/2, 5/18, 8/3 and 9/21. They bring in some of the biggest names in independent circles, but the ticket prices seem to be a little outrageous. Front row tickets go for the unbelievable price of \$35.00 each (obviously the promoters aren't into "family" entertainment), second through 5th row go for \$25.00 each with the rest of ringside at low Titan prices of \$15.00 per seat. Nosebleed-City is just \$12 with kids half price in that section. A mailing was sent out trying to sell tickets to all four shows at once (VIP Plan is "just" \$140 for one ticket to all four shows).

ANNOUNCED FOR THE 3/2 SHOW are Terry Funk vs Jerry Lawler in an audience participation lumberjack match, Greg Valentine vs Ronnie Garvin in a battle of the figure fours (huh?), Stan Lane with Cornette vs Al Perez, Abby vs Original Sheik, Eddie Gilbert vs Cactus Jack (falls count anywhere in building), Johnny Hotbody vs Tony Stetson, a Ringmaster Rumble, plus champion DC Drake vs the winner of the battle royal. Not exactly \$35.00 worth of entertainment there, folks.

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THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

by Sean B Hendrick

McMAHON-McWRESTLING-McDONALDS.

A TRIO OF McNAMES THAT ARE TIED together in the wrestling world that are served up in a fast-food style format weekly on our television screens for our McEnjoyment.

THIS ANALOGY HAS BEEN AROUND for quite a while, but recently, I have begun to consider this analogy much more closely than I have in the past.

EVERYONE KNOWS McDONALDS. Everyone knows what they serve. And everyone knows what they serve is unique unto itself. What it is that they serve is another question entirely.

THE WWF IS KNOWN BY MORE casuals than any other promotion on earth. Everyone knows what (who) they serve up. It is fair to say that the WWF is unique in the wrestling world. And it is also fair to say that it is questionable as to what they are serving at times.

NOW THOSE OBSERVATIONS ARE no big deal; the part the grabbed me lately are that both organizations consist of specific role players.

THE BIG MAC IS THE TOP DEAL at McDonalds. Hulk Hogan.

THE McRIB SANDWICH IS THE special of the month. Ultimate Warrior.

THE HAPPY MEAL (KID'S MEAL). The Bushwhackers.

THE McDLT. BRET HART.

WE COULD RUN A LOT MORE comparisons if you get my drift.

AT McDONALDS, THE BIG MAC will always be on top. As long as the Hulkster is around he will be the top dog regardless of who is being run "on special" at any particular time.

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR IS sort of like the special of the month. Lots of people will buy it since it's being featured but in the long run, they stick to Big Mac as number one.

THERE IS A SLEW OF SPECIALTY items to please a wide variety of consumers and enough specials and new items to keep people coming back. It has been a system that has worked well for both organizations. Especially when you consider that if you consume too much of either of these items, you could get sick.

SCATTERED THOUGHTS...

•MAYBE I'M NUTS, BUT I have to believe that Buddy Rose, pound for pound is one of the best bump taking jobbers around.

•I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY of you can catch it, but Sports-Channel us doing a wrestling block on Sunday afternoons for three hours.

// // PENCIL POINTS // //



THE PLIGHT OF OLE ANDERSON

Since you're such a basketball fan, let me put this a way you other readers can understand. Let's say you're the coach of a team. You find that going to number 23 underneath the basket gets him 10 points in the first quarter. You think, "Great! Let's try this again in the second quarter!" Except that the defense has found a way to stop #23. Every time you try to get the ball to him, it gets stolen. That doesn't stop you from trying though "because it worked once!" You spend the rest of the game trying to get the ball to #23 while the competition walks all over you.

Sound familiar in a wrestling sense? It ought to. That's what Ole Anderson did. He tried an experimental line up on one Clash and since it worked once he tried it again. Except that no one cared the second time around. He still tried again. He was so sure that it would work because it worked once.

Those who aren't willing to adapt to change won't be around long. And those who only want input if it agrees with what they want to hear are doomed to failure. Ole's firing doesn't surprise me one bit.

•ERIC HOYME•

•Indianapolis, IN•

WRESTLING'S GREATEST WRITERS

My respect for Ed Garea went up a couple of notches when he failed to include yourself and himself on the list of great wrestling writers. It dropped several more when he listed Tom Burke and Dave Meltzer.

Tom may have been a Willie Mays of his day, but he's hung around too long after he should have retired. Meltzer would be boycotted by any good union for all the Japanese crap. I stopped reading when the stuff in Japan (which 75% of wrestling fans don't even have access to anyway) became more important than the piddly stuff the Americans do.

In actuality, no sheet editor should make the list. Every damn one of them have friends within the business and they refuse to criticize them in print. Each editor slobbers and kisses the ass of any wrestler willing to give him information, even if it's a bunch of bull (the Eddie Gilbert injury saga). The promotions may not be able to control the newsletter industry, but they don't have to; the wrestlers do it for them.

That's why if Joe Pedicino manages to sign someone like Mario Mancini, the underground press will herald it as the coup of the decade since Joe is so open and friendly with the sheets.

The only reason I read *Forum* anymore is to get the bare news and analyze it for myself. At least you aren't quite so obvious about the mental masturbation between the sheets and the boys.

•RANDY MCNEELEY•
•Highland Park, IL•

Enjoyed Ed Garea's column about great wrestling writers very much. It waxed nostalgia for me. My personal rating for number one would be Nat Loubet by a long shot. Nat was the son-in-law of the legendary Nat Fleischer, publisher of boxing's bible, *Ring Magazine*. Each issue of *Ring* would donate a few pages to professional wrestling, which Loubet handled. When the "sport" became popular due to TV in the early 50's, rival publications such as *Boxing & Wrestling*, *Ringside*, and *Wrestling Life* to name a few, either came into existence or expanded the wrestling segment to meet public demand. Nat Fleischer had no other choice but to create *Ring Wrestling*, make Loubet the Vice-President and editor and gave him free reign. All Loubet did was to keep the same framework he used in *Ring Magazine* and elaborate on it. It was this framework that was the basis for every sheet or fanzine published today.

His RW Editorial included such topics as "Fans No Suckers, Let's have (unified) World Champ," "Controversy Ban on Women Wrestlers," "Blood or Catsup<" (the title explains itself), "Ability or Strength," etc. The tone of his writing, if published today, would surely set the already paranoid Vince McMahon off the deep end. As Ed mentioned, Loubet gave revealing information about promoters, wrestlers and booking offices and had area correspondents who reported in depth on local matches. Readers were told for instance, that a certain wrestler actually lost a particular match, not won it as the TV announcer claimed several days later. In doing a profile on a wrestler, there would be pictures of him in his various guises, names hair color and tag team partners used during his career. I always enjoyed the situation where his partner in one promotion became his antagonist in the current one.

I'm sure Ed Feels as I do, that our collection of *Ring Wrestling* magazines are priceless and can still be used today to glean early career information about some of the older, current stars.

•HOWARD SIEGEL•
Yonkers, NY•

BEATING THE HIGH COST OF WRESTLING

I agree with the writer who complained about the high cost of wrestling, but there's ways to beat the cost. Most promotions give local radio stations free tickets. Call around and check it out. Sometimes you don't even have to win a contest to get them, Usually they're not bad seats. Offer to call in a report to the station if they let you have the tickets free.

When you go to live matches, car pool. You save on gas and on parking.

When there's a PPV, invite a bunch of friends over and split the cost evenly. Four people means you only have to pay five bucks. that's pretty cheap entertainment.

If wrestling's important enough, you'll find a way to support your habit.

•STEVE DECKER•Pittsburgh, PA•

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE*

* pronounced "World Championship Wrestling"

OKAY, THIS IS CALLED "Court Reporter" type reporting: In other words I'm sitting in front of the TV, watching Starrcade with the computer keyboard on my lap, typing as I watch. Hey, don't worry...we'll go back later and correct spelling and stuff.

TOM ZENK VS BOBBY EATON

This wasn't a bad way to start the show, though Zenk did miss a few moves. They played it up that Zenk was on a winning streak of 34 matches or something. There were some nice spots including the ending sequence when Eaton came off the top rope and Zenk met him with a superkick. Zenk then went to the top and tried a dropkick, but Eaton moved out of the way and put Zenk into an inside cradle to score a mild upset. GRADE: C+

STEINERS VS COL DECLERK & SGT KRUGER

A quick squash. Scott was doubtful due to an ankle injury, but he looked fine. Scott hit Kruger with a Frankensteiner and got the pin in about two or three minutes. GRADE: C-

NORMAN SMILEY/CHRIS ADAMS

VS GRAN MISTERIO/KONAN

This match was kinda herky jerky as the two teams had not worked together before. Nice moves, but no fluidity. The Mexican team won with a sort of victory roll with a bridge, sans the roll. GRADE: D+

ROYAL FAMILY VS MASA SAITO/KEIJI MUTA

The Japanese team were received as babies here, but there wasn't very much heat either way until the end when Muta hit a handspring elbow. The match wasn't great by any standards, but had its moments. Very short moments. The Japanese won it with a belly to belly suplex. GRADE: D+

BULL JOHNSON/TROY MONTOUR

VS VICTOR ZANGIEV & SALMON HASIMIKOV

Boring. No heat live, either. They really tried to push the Russians as babyfaces both live and on the TV commentary. There was a communication problem and the Canadian team weren't very good. The Russians won it with a bearhug suplex, but I'm sure the end was messed up. The Canadians looked like they were upset that the ref called for the bell. As a matter of fact, the Canadian had his shoulder up during the pin. GRADE: ZZ

TERRY TAYLOR VS MICHAEL WALLSTREET

Wallstreet had predicted (using his computer) that he would beat Taylor in 8:32. This was a good match that started off with a lot of hot moves. Lots of early pinning combinations. The end came with Taylor hitting a five arm, but too close to the ropes. Rotunda recovered and put Taylor in the Stock Market Crash (or whatever he calls it) and it was a clean 1-2-3. GRADE: B

SKY SCRAPERS VS MOTOR CITY MADMAN/BIG CAT

Oops. I went to the kitchen for a piece of pizza and this one was over by the time I got back. It would have probably given me indigestion anyway. Very short and Vicious got the pin when he and Spivey hit MCM with a

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double power bomb. No grade coz I didn't see it. Originally, Nightstalker (Bryan Clark) was supposed to be in the match, but someone finally figured out how terrible he was and fired him.

FREEBIRDS VS MORTON/RICH

This was a lot better than I thought it would be. That's not saying a whole lot. Robert Gibson was at ringside and he got involved a couple of times, just taking shots at Hayes and Garvin when the opportunity presented itself. The end came when Li'l Richard was set to come off the top while Morton was holding Rich. Gibson reached up and hit him with the crutch, which threw off his leap and he hit Garvin instead. As Garvin was choking him, Morton rolled Garvin into a pin. After the match, the Freebirds destroyed Li'l Richard, giving him a double DDT. Morton and Rich ran back in to make the save and as they were attending to him, the Freebirds cornered Robert Gibson on the runway and gave him a double clothesline. **GRADE: C+**. We've been told that Rocky King had been fired, but that was during the week and here he was tonight. Don't have the full story on that, I'm afraid.

KONAN/MISTERIO VS STEINERS

This was a short match too. The Mexicans were probably real thankful for that. Konan was the victim of a top rope bulldog and Misterio got beat up by a blockbuster slam and a powerbomb. Misterio was pinned after he attempted what looked like a Frankensteiner and Rick turned it into a powerbomb. Not much here except to showcase the Steiners' power. **GRADE: C-**

ZANGIEV/HASIMIKOV VS SAITO/MUTA

I was looking forward to this match because I had heard such good things about the Russian team. I was not impressed. Hasimikov just about killed Muta with one of his belly to back suplexes. Muta got the pin after a nice clothesline and side suplex. The match reminded me a lot of a 70's match with a lot of suplexing and mat work. **GRADE: C-**

LEX LUGER VS STAN HANSEN

A good brawl all the way. Luger's turned into a good brawler. something he wasn't a year ago. Hansen was his usual hard working self except that he was working lighter than usual. I'm told that Luger gained his respect by doing such a clean job at Havoc and that as a result, Hansen was willing to not only work light, but also drop the strap. The ending was an example of some genius booking so that both men got put over. Luger had three of the four corners touched (bullrope match where pins don't count - only touching all four corners of the ring consecutively). He was trying for the fourth, but Hansen was playing tug of war. The ref, Randy Anderson, tried to run behind Luger to get better position just as Hansen let go of his end of the rope. Luger crashed into Anderson and he was out. Luger had touched the fourth corner, but no one could call it. Nick Patrick ran in, but since he didn't see Luger get all four, he ordered the match restarted. Hansen beat on Luger, hitting him with his cowboy boot and managed to touch all four corners and Patrick called for the bell. They started to announce Hansen as the champion,

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but Anderson recovered and told Patrick that he had seen what happened and that Luger had touched all four corners. They awarded the match and belt to Luger. Hansen stays strong by winning after Luger had won and he still didn't have to do a job. Good job on everyone's part. **GRADE: A-**

ARN ANDERSON/BARRY WINDHAM VS DOOM

As far as I'm concerned, this was the best match of the night. They lifted the ban on blood for this street fight and all four guys were juicing. The match was super tight and at one point Reed took a hard chair shot to the head. The end was strange. Arn was on the top ropes while Windham was holding Reed. Arn came off just as Simmons hit Windham. Windham let go of Reed who clotheslined Arn coming down from the ropes. Windham then put Reed in a small package just as Simmons draped an arm over Arn. The ref did a double count with one guy from each team being pinned. The result? No Contest and the four guys recovered enough to brawl all the way back to the dressing room. **GRADE: A** and it doesn't get the "+" only because it wasn't a clean win for somebody. It does set up the next PPV but more on that later.

STEINERS VS MUTA/SAITO

The ref for this bout was Japanese (Masanori Hatori, I believe) and they talked about how he had managed Saito when he first came over to the US in 1979. Paul E said that Hatori was so disgusted by Saito's tactics that he gave up on him. Jim Ross replied that the only good advice he gave Saito was to "stay out of McDonald's." Little inside joke for those of us who remember that Saito got to spend some time in jail with Ken Patera for tossing a boulder through a McDonald's window after they refused to serve them. Anyway, the match wasn't bad and featured a lot of brawling. Rick got hit with the ring bell. The ref looked like he might be favoring the Japanese team by not making them break choke holds and making Scott get out of the ring as soon as he stepped in to help. Scott finally got a hot tag, but they killed it with a stuff piledriver, followed by a sleeper by Saito. Scott managed to get a tag and Rick came up on the ropes and sunset flipped Saito from the middle ropes to get the pin and the International tag team championship. **GRADE: B-**

STING VS SCORPION

Four Scorpions came to the ring, but they were just "messengers" according to the "real" scorpion. He appeared via a magical suspension (very impressive from a magic standpoint - I wonder if I can order one of those from Magic, Inc.?). As soon as he stepped out of the pod, he gave it away who he was; he grabbed the cape he was wearing and took a look at himself. Something that **RIC FLAIR** always does. He did change his wrestling style so that we didn't recognize him that way, but that little motion and his walk to the ring gave it away. The other thing that gave it away was his grunts in the ring. The match itself was not good, especially considering the participants. I heard from two fans who were there live and they said it was awfully hard to see into the cage and that they ran the sweeping spotlights

throughout the match. One nice move was when Sting had Flair in a military press and threw him headfirst into the cage. Sting ended up winning it with a cross body block off the ropes. After the match, all the fake Scorpions jumped in the ring but Sting and special ref Dick the Bruiser held them off. Windham and Anderson ran in and finally got the upper hand on Sting and gave him a DDT on a chair. Zenk and Morton ran to the ring to make the save but couldn't. The Steiners finally found those ever present giant bolt cutters (funny how they always get misplaced around our house). Sting managed to pull off Scorpion's mask and although we never got a good look at his face, Jim Ross was sure to inform us that it was in fact Flair.

GRADE: C-

IN OTHER NEWS, TOM ZENK WON the TV title from Arn Anderson at last week's TV taping. Taking a page from the Titan policy manual, WCW has decided not to make the announcement official until the match airs on TV. I'm told that it should air this coming weekend.

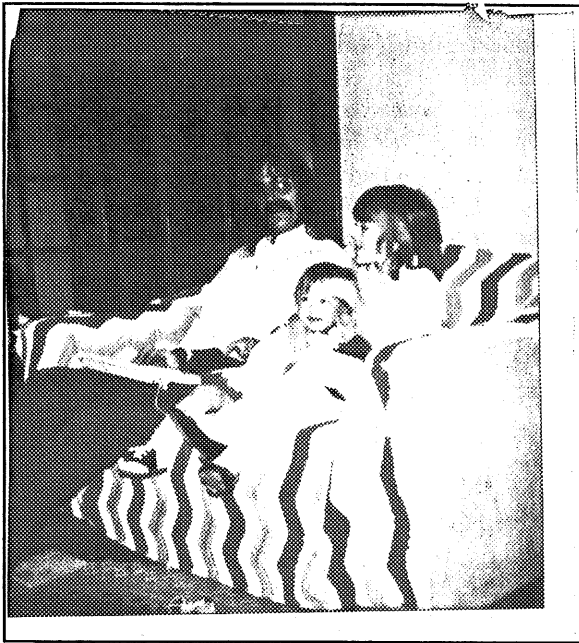
THE NEXT PPV EVENT WILL BE Wrestlewar on February 24 from Phoenix. They are already billing it as a War Games so I guess you can figure out that they will be trying to settle the Horseman-Doom angle.

THE NWA HAS BOWED TO PRESSURE and they have released the Juicer, Art Barr, from employment. It stems from a sexual misconduct charge in the Pacific Northwest and a campaign to have him fired by those opposed. I really don't have an opinion on this, or you'd be hearing it.

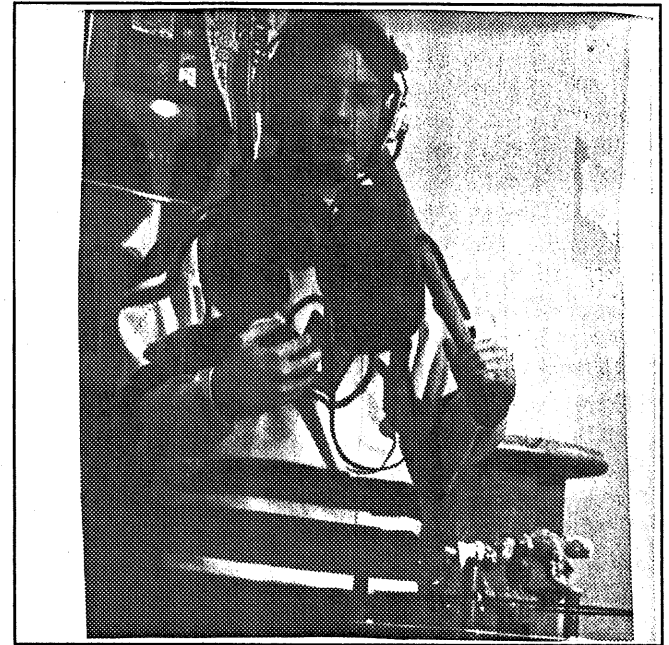
A COUPLE OF NEWCOMERS, STEVE DiSalvo will be working as Minotaur, a dungeons and dragons type character (no doubt Kevin Sullivan's idea) who will wear white contact lenses in both eyes. Wonderful. Also, Larry Cameron is in and he'll be managed by Teddy Long. From personal experience, I can tell you, Cameron doesn't need a manager. He has the uncanny ability to walk into an arena cold and have everyone there hating his guts within five minutes. As a worker, he's a little below average, has a nice powerslam, and is a good brawler. He's going to be set up with Lex Luger it looks like.

ZENK AND EATON WILL FEUD over the TV title and that's probably why they "broke" Zenk's "winning streak" at the PPV. It would be nice to see Eaton get a singles title, but I would think that the odds are against it.

LARRY ZBYSZKO WILL BE IN, but for now, they'll only him behind the mike. There were some problems with negotiations as he showed up once for a TV taping a couple weeks back, but was sent home because Jim Herd hadn't been informed that he was coming in.

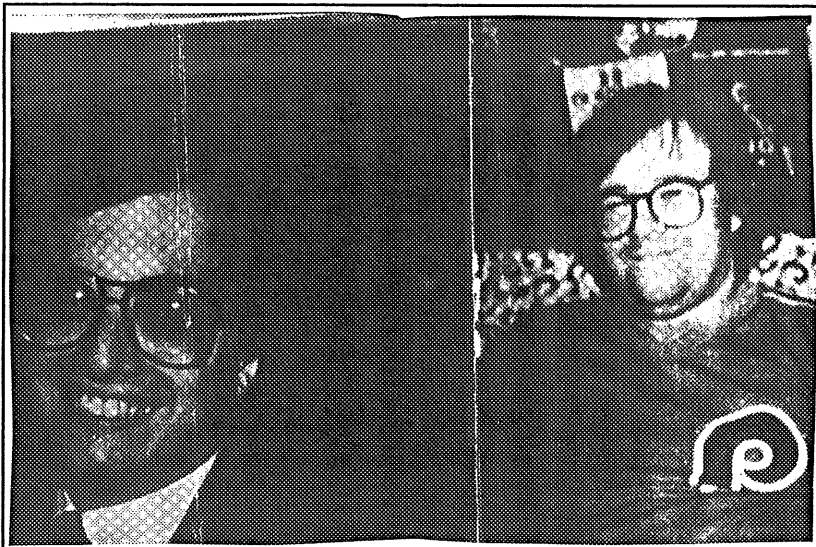


Jon attempts to watch Starrcade as Erin and Kelly insist on playing "Where in the World is Carmen San Diego"

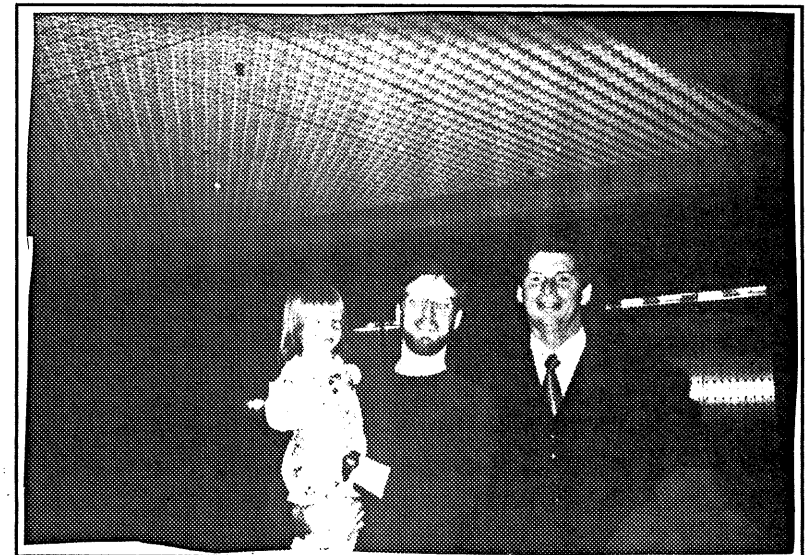


Sean Grande tries out for a play by play spot in any sport

From all of us here at Wrestling Forum
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
Happy Chanuka



Jeff Siegel with personal bodyguard Ed Garea



Vince McMahon with his favorite sheet writer Sean Hendrick

DEAR SANTA...

We here at *Wrestling Forum*, have intercepted some mail bound for the North Pole. It was addressed to Santa, but since he's a regular subscriber anyway, we've lightened his incoming mail load a bit by reprinting some of it here. Enjoy!

FROM PAT RAFFERTY of Baltimore these suggestions: **FOR JOE PEDICINO:** a rabbit's foot for luck and a lottery win. **FOR JIM CORNETTE:** Trees that grow toilet paper. **FOR BUDDY ROSE:** his own *Forum* column "Fat People are Great Workers, Too" **FOR DUSTY RHODES:** a new bookcase for all his future dipstick awards. **FOR READER STEVE YOHE:** Self defense lessons with Stan Hansen. **FOR PHANTOM ED GAREA:** one year free rent at the Old Age Home. **FOR MIKE ROTUNDA:** free subscription to *Junk Bond Weekly*. **FOR STEVE WILLIAMS:** a case of Japanese chewing gum. **FOR EARTHQUAKE:** a Shake and Bake bag large enough for Hector. **FOR READER RANDY MCNEELY:** a Jon Gallagher voodoo doll. **FOR SEAN GRANDE:** ownership of Eastern Airlines. **FOR BARRY WINDHAM:** a permanent Paid Vacation. **FOR JEFF SIEGEL:** high barometric pressure. **FOR RIC FLAIR:** respect from Jim Herd. **FOR BOBBY EATON:** the world championship belt for any or all promotions. **FOR JOSE GONZALEZ:** a set of Ginsu knives. **FOR BOBBY HEENAN:** a new Prime Time co-host. **FOR LANNY POFFO:** a new gimmick. **FOR JIM CROCKETT:** a revival of the Crockett Cup. **FOR DAVID CROCKETT:** a job with Titan. **FOR CURT HENNIG:** a Titan heavyweight strap. **FOR TONY SHIVONE:** A new laptop computer and Administrative assistant. **FOR LANCE RUSSELL:** a regular spot on the TBS Saturday show. **FOR BILL EADIE:** a gift certificate from Red Lobster. **FOR CHRIS CHAMPION:** 12 year old Scotch. **FOR JUSHIN RIGER:** free health insurance. **FOR THE HEBNERS:** Double Mint Gum.

FROM ERIC HOYME of Indianapolis: **FOR JIM CORNETTE:** a new brick wall to bang his head against (he destroyed the last one). **FOR JIM HERD:** a job offer from Domino's. **FOR EDDIE GILBERT:** ownership in a driving school. **FOR JERRY LAWLER:** some common sense. **FOR OLE ANDERSON:** a personality transplant. **FOR GALLAGHER:** an instruction manual with footers and headers highlighted. **FOR DUSTY RHODES:** a blow away diet that works. **FOR LANCE RUSSELL:** a job in Memphis.

AND FROM US HERE AT WRESTLING FORUM: **FOR BARRY WINDHAM:** a phone that works **THE NWA:** a week at a glance planner and a revolving door for the dressing room. **FOR JAKE ROBERTS:** a contact lens any color but white. **FOR BOSSMAN:** an antiperspirant that works. **FOR KEVIN VON ERICH:** a watch that works so he can have better timing. **FOR THE WWF:** a color commentator who won't be compared to Jesse. **FOR HERB ABRAMS:** gift subscriptions to the sheets. **FOR EDDIE GILBERT:** a fake cast with a zipper for quick changes next time he needs it. **FOR DUSTY RHODES:** spot remover.

DEAR EDWARDS

HERE'S YOUR LAST CHANCE TO VOTE IN THE YEAR END POLL. VOTING ENDS 12/31/90! THOSE WHO VOTE WILL RECEIVE A DISCOUNT ON THEIR YEARBOOK ORDER. VOTE FOR A MAXIMUM OF 3 IN EACH CATEGORY.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. MAN OF THE YEAR | 2. WRESTLER OF THE YEAR |
| 3. ROOKIE OF THE YEAR | 4. BEST PROMOTION |
| 5. WORST PROMOTION | 6. TAG TEAM OF THE YEAR |
| 7. MOST OVERRATED | 8. MOST UNDERRATED |
| 9. MATCH OF THE YEAR | 10. ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR |
| 11. COLOR COMMENTATOR | 12. JOBBER OF THE YEAR |
| 14. FEUD OF THE YEAR | 13. ANGLE OF THE YEAR |
| | 15. DUMBEST/WORST ANGLE OF THE YEAR |
| 16. DUMBEST/WORST FEUD OF THE YEAR | |
| 17. WORST WRESTLER OF THE YEAR | |
| 18. BEST BABYFACE | |
| 19. BEST HEEL | |
| 20. MANAGER OF THE YEAR | |
| 21. DIPSTICK OF THE YEAR | |
| 22. BEST TV SHOW | |
| 23. MOST IMPROVED WRESTLER | |
| 24. BEST FINISHING MANEUVER | |
| 25. WORST FINISHER | |
| 26. BEST INTERVIEW | |
| 27. MOST DISGUSTING EVENT | |
| 28. BIGGEST SHOCK | |
| 29. WORST ANNOUNCER | |
| 30. BEST MAJOR EVENT | |

VOTES WILL BE COMPILED NOW THROUGH THE 31ST OF DECEMBER. YOUR VOTES MUST REACH US BY THAT DAY IN ORDER TO COUNT AND IN ORDER FOR YOU TO RECEIVE THE DISCOUNT ON THE YEARBOOK.

ALSO, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATISTICAL INFO SO I CAN HAVE SOME FUN WITH THE COMPUTER GRAPHS: AGE; OCCUPATION, SEX; # OF YEARS A FAN; # OF LIVE CARDS ATTENDED THIS YEAR; # OF HOURS YOU SPEND WATCHING WRESTLING ON TV; APPROX \$ SPENT ON WRESTLING THIS YEAR; # OF NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBED TO.

IN WRESTLER OF THE YEAR, BE SURE AND VOTE FOR THE TOP TEN WRESTLERS!

PHANTOM OF THE RING

by Ed Garea

SAY IT AIN'T SO, JOE – In what must seem like a major shock of sorts, the once formidable promotion of the once formidable Jerry Jarrett has been acquired by the redoubtable Joe Pedicino for what is a tidy sum, as wrestling promotions go. Of course, from what I've been told, Jarrett will continue to have a major voice in what goes on, so we are right back to the old maxim of too many chefs and the broth.

THE PURCHASE OF MEMPHIS by Pedicino makes me uneasy. Not because I think he will ruin a wonderful promotion; quite the contrary. He can only improve things from a wrestling point of view. No, I feel uneasy because Pedicino is about to take the Memphis promotion right down the road to oblivion, and the last thing wrestling needs right now is another promotion folding. How will Joe Pedicino do this, pray tell? Easy. He wants to make the Memphis promotions national in scale. And if he does this, I don't give him a snowball's chance in Hell of pulling it off.

Pedicino has inherited a once thriving regional promotion with a pretty decent fan base. It hasn't been doing all that well lately because of a combination of promotional mistakes and erosion of fan support by the two larger national promotions. What Pedicino must do in order to be successful is to rebuild the regional promotion into a semblance of what it once was. Jarrett hurt the promotion greatly by expanding into Texas. He diluted the wrestling talent and booking angles and only confused the fans in both areas. He was also not a financial success: Texas did not catch on like he hoped and Memphis suffered a downturn in attendance as well. Angles that once were successful fell like lead balloons. Talent left for greener pastures because the dwindling fan base made good payoffs next to impossible. If Jarrett had been doing well in Texas, he would not have ceded the territory to Kevin Von Erich so easily. But he really hurt himself in his home market of Memphis. The famous angle with Jerry Lawler being run over by Eddie Gilbert only impressed the smart fans. The paying customers, the so called "marks", saw right through it and stayed away in droves. And it eventually comes down to this: one does not sell a successful promotion, especially on the terms that Jarrett asked.

LET'S GIVE PEDICINO CREDIT, he brought in new faces and wants to take a new approach to this promotion. But there are good reasons why he shouldn't seek to expand his market at this time:

- **FAN BASE** – Before seeking new fans nationwide, Pedicino must recapture those fans that were lost over recent years to other promotions or apathy. Going national won't bring them back. Fans have to feel as if they're getting their money's worth. This means that they must enter the arena knowing that a title change could take place or that a big feud will finally be decided once and for all. In a national promotion, fans have come to expect title changes only on pay per view or television specials, not in their local arena. Hence, why go at all? Nothing will happen and

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we'll only be wasting out money. This will happen here was well. In a regional promotion, fans can be more in tune with the story line and feel more like they are in the swing of action. Wrestling has always worked better on a regional scale anyway. Look at the WWF. Before the age of the Hulkster, they regularly had good crowds in the major arenas in their home areas. Today, Boston, New York and Pittsburgh are drawing flies.

•**TELEVISION EXPOSURE** – Who does Pedicino think will show his new promotion? Free television costs money and if the card he will run in their areas go bust (real good chance of that happening), he will no longer be able to afford to televise in that particular market. Cable doesn't look much better: USA and TBS, the two largest basic systems available, are locked up. Sportschannel has more wrestling than it knows what to do with; besides, it is a premium channel and thus not as accessible to many viewers. ESPN really doesn't care for wrestling. Currently, it uses the World Class matches as weekday filler. This slot is the one Pedicino would inherit. And who really watches between four and five in the afternoon? Also, what does he have to offer a station besides hope and potential? The thing to do is to build up the regional promotion to the point where a national television option is practically feasible to undertake.

•**RECEDING ECONOMY** – In case Mr. Pedicino hasn't noticed, it isn't exactly great for wrestling right now. The NWA is swimming in red ink and even the WWF is making cuts. The live attendance at arenas is way down and the only the WWF seems to show any life in the PPV market. Does Joe remember the disaster of Superclash III? Has he been viewing the problems of Herb Abrams and his UWF? The market is shrinking and the future is no longer on the national scale. There is great money that can be made in one's own backyard, and this should be the route he should take. Let the others overextend themselves and cut back. A healthy regional promotion can outdo an ailing national one. And if you're going to be ailing in this economy, it is better to cut your losses on a smaller scale than to bankrupt oneself on a grand scale.

THE FIRST THING TO DO is to get the Memphis promotion on its feet again. Here, he is taking the steps in the right direction. What Memphis needs right now more than anything is good drawing talent. Pedicino has a fertile mind, so angles involving that talent shouldn't be hard to conceive. Having people like Bill Eadie and Jim Cornette working for you can't hurt either.

IF JOE PEDICINO KEEPS the promotion to a good small promotion with a strong fan base, he will do well in the hard times to come. Memphis can once again be the shining star of wrestling in the South and Joe Pedicino can be known as the man who revived Southern wrestling. Not a bad accomplishment when you sit down to think about it.



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THERE WAS NO WRESTLING at the Mid South Coliseum on 12/3 because some one predicted that most of the central part of the United States was going to have an earthquake and fall into the Mississippi River (Yeah, not quite as exciting as being dumped into the Pacific, but California always does things in a big way). There will also be no wrestling on either the 17th or the 24th, both usual Monday nights, but will resume on the 26th. Part of this, I'm guessing, is due to a conflict with the management of the Mid South Coliseum. Of course, no one is admitting this, but as reported here a few issues back, the promotion wants to continue to ban beer sales at wrestling shows and the management wants to reinstate the practice.

HERE'S AN INTERESTING SITUATION that poses some problems for Joe Pedicino. We have learned that the contract that Jarrett promotions has with WMC-TV channel 5 prohibits any other station in Memphis from showing matches from the Mid South Coliseum. Another station in town carries the USWA show and when they showed the clips on that show of the recent tournament held at Mid South, that station had to replace any and all matches filmed there with old matches. If Pedicino's promotion takes off, one has to wonder if the ESPN show will be allowed in Memphis or if it will be blacked out.

AS FOR WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING on TV lately, Eddie Gilbert won the services of Sweet Brown Sugar, Brickhouse Brown's sister and valet, for 30 days in a recent match. History was made with this angle on the 12/1 show when Eddie told her on camera to go get him a Dr. Pepper and she did. It's the first time ever that a liquid or food product requested by a heel, did not wind up on said heel. This angle was dropped rather quickly as on 12/10 they had a match with Brickhouse vs Black Magic with a special stip that if Brick won, he'd get Sugar back before the 30 days were up. He did and the angle was deep sixed.

ANOTHER ANGLE THAT FELL BY the wayside as soon as it happened saw Jimmy Backlund from Florida defend the world lightweight belt against Brickhouse Brown on TV. Special ref was Professional Wrestling from Florida official Mickey Jay. It was a good match with lots of high spots. Brick ended up getting Jimmy in a figure four. As he leaned back to apply pressure, Jay counted 1-2 and called for the bell. Referee Jerry Calhoun came out to object because Jay had only counted to two, but after just a short argument, it was forgotten about.

ANOTHER FORGOTTEN ANGLE HAD Sheik Hussein (George Weingeroff) being managed by Handsome Herbie Weingeroff (his real life brother). During the match, they talked about the Weingeroff family, but never mentioned George or who Sheik really was. It was dropped by the time the next commercial came on.

THE 12/8 TV SHOW HAD A WANTED poster of Jerry Lawler

distributed by unknown persons. It offered \$10,000 to anyone who could injure him and \$50,000 if it was a career ending injury. Everyone blamed Eddie Gilbert, but he claimed he had nothing to do with it. What it does set up is that a lot of wrestlers will be brought in for special one time appearances trying to collect the bounty instead of having Terry Funk there to defend the unified belt each and every week. I would guess that Terry Funk is responsible for the poster.

**DOUG GILBERT WILL PROBABLY** turn baby in the near future. he's playing the part of a schizophrenic where he gets really upset at little things. For example, Dirty White Boy was praising him and called him a second generation wrestler. Doug went off the deep end and started yelling that he was a *third* generation wrestler.

**THE FABULOUS ONES, STAN LANE** and Steve Keirn were reunited by Jim Cornette for the 12/10 show and they teamed with Lawler against Eddie and Doug Gilbert and DWB. They were introduced with an old video which featured them in a match with a dark haired Bobby Eaton.

**LATER IN THE SHOW, LAWLER** wrestled Eddie Gilbert on TV in a non title match. It was pretty good with a lot of brawling with chairs and chains and the obligatory ref bump. The Memphis Mafia did a run in and Lawler was saved by Steve Keirn.

**BRICKHOUSE BROWN WAS INJURED** on the 12/15 show when he was wrestling Joseph Magliano. The mafia ended up running in with Eddie hitting Brown in the legs with a chair several times before Eddie Marlin made the save.

**LAWLER HAD A MATCH WITH** Sgt. O'Reilly on TV that was downright terrible. O'Reilly messed up two backdrops, but Lawler was determined to get it right so they tried it a third time. By that time, Lawler and O'Reilly were both laughing. Two wrestlers jumped Lawler at the end trying to collect the bounty, but they failed as Lawler held them both off.

**THE 12/26 CARD AT MID SOUTH** features the New Kids vs RPMs with the winners getting a title match with Doug and DWB; Danny Davis vs Joey Mags, er ah, Magliano with the Mafia barred from the building and Mags' hair at stake; Eddie vs Jeff Jarrett; Jerry Lawler vs Austin Idol; plus a battle royal where fans will try to pick the winner and one fan will win \$100. Not much of a card and two weeks to promote it.

**THE TV SHOW IS STILL BEING** taped in the morning but due to commitments to college football, the show is being shown in the afternoon on Saturdays.

**THE LATEST TOP TEN HAS:** 10-Brickhouse Brown; 9-Steve Keirn; 8-Jeff Jarrett; 7-Austin Idol; 6-Dick Murdoch; 5-Bill Dundee; 4-Steve Williams; 3-Bam Bam Bigelow; 2-Jerry Lawler; 1-Eddie Gilbert. Terry Funk, of course, is still champion.

**LAWLER IS SELLING TEE-SHIRTS** that he designed that say, "I stood my ground in the Fake-Quake." They're on sale at places where Lawler makes personal appearances.

## WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

**NOW THAT SURVIVORS IS OVER** the main thrust of the TV will be geared for the Royal Rumble Pay Per View in January. It's an endless circle, folks, and other than not ordering pay per views, there's not a thing we can do about it.

**DUSTY RHODES IS FULFILLING HIS** commitment with Titan by doing jobs for everyone. It started out with clean jobs for Ted DiBiase (which is about the most poetic justice wrestling can serve) and now he's been doing clean in the middle, 90 second jobs for Virgil (which is even more poetic justice). Supposedly Dusty's last day is the Royal Rumble so that means the next month or so is going to seem like a year to Dusty. Then again, it takes longer for him to lace up his boots (probably takes even longer to get into a position where he can *see* his boots) than it does to lose, so he's got nothing to really complain about.

**PINK SLIPS IN TITAN DON'T NECESSARILY** mean what they're supposed to. Greg Valentine will be sticking around for a short time after he's scheduled to leave. Haku's name is listed on the booking sheets up through the middle of January (then again, he's the one who gave notice, not Titan) and as you know, Jim Neidhart is already back working a full schedule.

**MORALE HERE IS AT AN ALL TIME** low. Vince's new venture, a body building magazine, is going to end up costing Titan some money up front before it shows a profit (if it ever does). The boys are upset that the guys signed for the body building circuit are being paid so well for so little work and travel. Those bitching about the lack of work on the body builders' part have obviously not watched a house show lately.

**NOT A WHOLE LOT OF INFORMATION** from the TV tapings held last week in Florida, but we do have some.

**THE NASTY BOYS DEBUTED ALREADY** and they will be managed by Jimmy Hart.

**JACQUES ROUGEAU ALSO IS BACK**, and his character will be similar to what he did before. He'll still be the smug French-Canadian, but now, he's a Mountie. This past weekend on TV, he debuted courtesy of one of their intro skits and he had an American stop and ask him directions to the United States. He got down off his horse and told them that the front end was pointed at Canada and that the rear end was pointed towards the States. I guess that means he's not an All American boy anymore, some to think about it. Jimmy Hart will also manage him as well. Looks like they'll probably set him up to feud with Bossman.

**ONLY SOME SCATTERED REPORTS** on this next. During one of the squash matches at the taping, the Rockers seriously injured the jobber they were working against. I guess at first, they thought the jobber might end up paralyzed but after a couple of days, he was able to wiggle his toes. I don't know what exactly happened, but I was told two things: first, the match will air on TV and two, the jobber was probably wrestling one of his first few matches, allegedly lying about his experience in order to gain the

job. I was told by more than one Titan employee that the kid looked terrible and had no business in the ring with anyone, let alone the Rockers. Realize that we only have one side of the story here.

**THE STAGE IS BEING SET FOR** Virgil to turn babyface... finally. Ted insulted him last week on TV saying something to the effect that there was only one thing lower than a Texan and that was him (Virgil). We'll be keeping an eye on how Titan handles this potentially explosive racial angle in the weeks to come.

**AN ARTICLE IN THE NEWS-REGISTER** from Wheeling WV says that Titan has pulled out of all its dates from the Civic Center there for the coming year. Now you have to read between the lines a bit because the story is somewhat sour grapes from the Civic Center point of view. Management are quoted as saying that Titan suffered a "somewhat disastrous fourth quarter nationwide." Titan invoked a previously unused clause in their contract that says they will not promoter within a one hundred mile radius of another show. Since Pittsburgh falls within that circle, they will work there rather than Wheeling. The Civic Center said they will continue to hold talks with Titan because wrestling is one of their biggest money makers. In the middle of the story, they have this short sentence about how there is no local TV in Wheeling. As you know, it's extremely hard to promote on a local basis without a local show. I imagine that if local TV is secured, they will be back. Among the dates canceled was a TV shoot.

**I DON'T KNOW HOW WE KEEP** missing this one...Last month in Salt Lake City, Ultimate Warrior lost to Randy Savage via count out. The ring announcer, who wasn't familiar with WWF rules, took it upon himself to announce "the winner and *new* champion..." at which point Warrior went a little nutso and clotheslined him, much to the delight of the crowd. Well, we all thought it was part of the show. It wasn't. The ring announcer was not amused and now we understand that he will be filing suit against Titan Sports.

**ALL TV SHOWS IN THE NEW YORK** market are getting a customized opening and closing now, to make it look like the show was done especially for New York. Titan took the cue from World Championship Wrestling who does the same thing in New York and Chicago.



## RESULTS FROM ALL OVER

**11/30 MIAMI (WWF)** - courtesy of **CHARLIE MATTOS**... Barbarian pinned Shane Douglas (D)...Rockers over Power & Glory (A-)...Bossman destroyed Heenan (D)...Warrior pinned Savage (B-)...DiBiase over Dusty (C)...Martel beat Jake by DQ (C+)...Warlord beat Snuka (D-)...Hart Foundation won by COR over Demolition...NOTES: Attendance 5900...Virgil interfered in DiBiase-Dusty match...Bossman-Heenan only lasted about 30 seconds.

**12/1 LOS ANGELES (WWF)** - courtesy of **MARK GROSS**...Hart Foundation beat Demolition (C+)...Paul Diamond over Shane Douglas (D)...Bossman pinned Haku (B+)...DiBiase defeated Dusty (D)...Savage over Warrior by COR (B+)...Warlord beat Superfly (ZZ)...Martel downed Jake by DQ (D)...Rockers beat Power & Glory (B+)...NOTES: Attendance 6500...Diamond subbed for Barbarian...Heenan begged off of his match with Bossman saying he had the flu...Ted pinned Dusty with a "large package."

**12/9 DES MOINES (WWF)** - courtesy of **JO CAMPBELL**...Warrior beat Savage...Kerry pinned Hennig...Slaughter beat Hacksaw...Virgil pinned Dusty...Sama-Tony Atlas over Buddy Rose...Shane Douglas pinned Black Bart...Hawk beat Kato (Paul Diamond) by DQ...Davey Boy over Haku...NOTES: Attendance 5000...Animal not there so it was Hawk vs Kato...Tanaka and Fuji interfered to cause DQ...best match of night was Warrior vs Savage.

**12/13 TAMPA (PWF)** - courtesy of **SHANNON ROSE**...Ron Starr beat Mike DeBacco...Frankie Lancaster over Johnny B Goode...Johnny Pavros downed Powerhouse Parker...Hurricane Walker beat Ron Slinker by DQ...Steve Keirn pinned Tex Salenger...NOTES: Attendance 115...Johnny G. Lyons was special ref for main event, but he got knocked out and regular ref Micky Jay came in to make the count for Keirn...Rocky Johnson did a run in and made a save for Hurricane Walker when Slinker and crew started beating on him...last show in this facility for a while as place is being renovated.

**12/14 WACHULA, FL (PWF)**- courtesy of **SHANNON ROSE**...Incredible Thor beat Coconut Kid...Hurricane Walker/Terminator defeated Slinker/Sgt. Rock by DQ... Keirn pinned Tex Salenger...A.J. Watson beat Debbie Drake...Johnny Pavros defeated Jim Backlund by reverse decision...NOTES: Attendance: 700...this was a benefit for D.A.R.E....JPR Promotions presented the card...the match between AJ Watson and Debbie Drake was in a steel cage and was the first ever woman's steel cage match in the United States.

## MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

**JUST A TAD BIT LATER THAN WE** thought we'd be. I've been under the weather a little since the middle of Starrcade (must have been the replay on top of the pizza that did it). That plus the printer has become a pain and I haven't quite got it figured out yet. Never fear; the computer people will be here to help us figure it out.

**GOT AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL** from someone who really sounded like they knew what they were talking about. Seriously. He claims that Joe Pedicino is blowing a bunch of hot air when he talks about this new promotion. According to the caller, Kongi is not listed anywhere as a corporation, either here in the states or in Japan. The caller suggested that this is an attempt to "get in to wrestling with no money down." We will try to check things out and let you know in a future issue. meanwhile, they are continuing to go with the angle we described last issue where the Japanese guy goes off to hunt for a promotion to work for. That's been airing on TV already. You have to feel sorry for Craig Johnson, the announcer...the poor guy's had laryngitis for three weeks now.

**MY THANKS TO THOSE WHO** have responded over the past few days to the year end awards. It seems that over the past three or four days, the mailbox has been crammed full of ballots so it may be going a little better than I had originally thought. Keep them coming and if you haven't voted, do so. Remember, you don't have to be a so called expert to vote in this thing. You know what you like and what you don't and that makes you enough of an expert for me.

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SENT** Christmas cards and stuff. We appreciate each and every one. Our centerfold this year is missing Mike Viola who has become the invisible man anyway due to the changes in USWA and ICW broadcasts. Be assured that Spike is still on staff, it's just that we couldn't find the one and only picture that he sent us last year to use.

**SPEAKING OF THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN** sent, I received a tape this week of a call in show that features Frank Zicarelli, the *Toronto Sun* columnist who usually acts as a Titan shill. I haven't had the chance to listen yet (it just came this morning), but we'll pass along some thoughts next time out. This is the guy who holds the world's record for predicting that Ric Flair will go to the WWF.

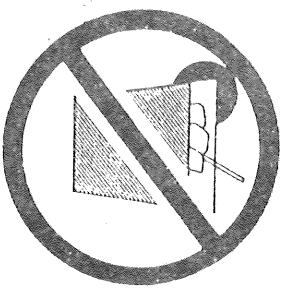
**OUT OF ROOM AND TIME. SEE YOU** next issue on January 15th! Have a safe and happy holiday season until then.

# WRESTLING FORUM V5I23

Jon Gallagher - Editor

Box 65

Knoxville, IL 61448



ARRIVE ALIVE.  
DON'T DRINK  
AND DRIVE.

## STILL OLD FASHIONED... AT LEAST FOR A WHILE LONGER...

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